



# Department of Justice

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## **UNREGISTERED SEX OFFENDER ARRESTED IN CAYUGA COUNTY**

United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian announced that JIMMY L. MORSE, 34, was arrested today at a residence in Locke, New York, and charged with the federal offense of failing to register as a sex offender.<sup>1</sup>

A criminal complaint unsealed today alleges that in June of 2002 MORSE was convicted in East Baton Rouge, Louisiana of Aggravated Oral Sexual Battery against a child, and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. MORSE was also notified that he was required to register as a sex offender until April of 2020. MORSE last complied with his registration requirements in Louisiana in 2008, and a warrant was issued for him there in 2010 as a result.

In April of 2013 the United States Marshals Service received information from authorities in Louisiana that MORSE may be living in Cayuga County, New York. After investigation, the Marshals Service determined that MORSE's conviction would require him to register as a sex offender in New York, and that he had not registered as required.

MORSE was located today at a residence in Locke, New York and arrested on a warrant signed yesterday by Hon. Therese Wiley Dancks, United States Magistrate Judge. He made his initial appearance before her today, and has been remanded pending disposition of his case.

The charge filed against MORSE carries with it a maximum sentence of 10 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 5 years and up to life.

MORSE'S arrest is the result of an investigation by the United States Marshals Service Sex Offender Investigation Branch, North East Region, and the New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force with the assistance of the Cayuga County Sheriff's Office, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Fletcher as part of Project Safe Childhood. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafchildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafchildhood.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> The charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.